

EXHIBIT B

Symyx News Release: "Symyx Technologies and Kurt J. Lesker Company Enter into Instrument Licensing Agreement" (September 19, 2002)

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Symyx Technologies, Inc. (ticker: SMMX, exchange: NASDAQ) News Release - 19-Sep-2002

Symyx Technologies and Kurt J. Lesker Company Enter into Instrument Licensing Agreement

SANTA CLARA, Calif. & CLAIRTON, Pa., Sep 19, 2002 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Symyx Technologies, Inc. (Nasdaq:SMMX) and Kurt J. Lesker Company (KJLC) announced today they have entered into a worldwide, non-exclusive license of selected Symyx(R) patents and technology that will enhance the performance and capabilities of KJLC's CMS-A and CMS-18 thin-film deposition tools. The agreement allows KJLC to develop, manufacture, and distribute the instruments worldwide, with Symyx receiving royalty payments on product sales. It also allows KJLC to distribute Symyx' Library Studio(R) software as a value-added component to these deposition systems.

For customers, the licensed products speed the design and synthesis of thin films for organic and polymeric light emitting diodes (OLED / PLED), semiconductor, superconductor, optical and opto-electronic film applications.

"Incorporating Symyx' Library Studio software and thin-film technology into our systems will enhance our competitive advantage in the marketplace by supplying our customers with high performance research instruments," said Kurt J. Lesker III, president of KJLC.

"KJLC is a market leader in the manufacture and distribution of thin-film deposition tools, with a worldwide network of customers. We are pleased to add KJLC into our growing list of technology licensees, as a part of Symyx' new IP Licensing business, allowing us to expand the return on our intellectual property investments," said Steven

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Goldby, chairman and chief executive officer of Symyx Technologies, Inc.

Library Studio, part of Symyx' Renaissance(R) software suite, enables scientists to accelerate the discovery and optimization of new materials through automating the design and specification of library-based experiments. To enhance the usability and customization of Library Studio, Symyx has licensed Microsoft Corporation's (Nasdaq: MSFT) Visual Basic(R) for Applications (VBA), an embeddable BASIC language software product, and included it in Library Studio. Symyx also has included Microsoft VBA as part of its Impressionist(R) software, and has plans to include Microsoft VBA in other Renaissance applications.

Kurt J. Lesker Company, a privately owned company founded in Pittsburgh, Pa., (1954) as a vacuum products manufacturers' representative, is today an international manufacturer and distributor to the research and process vacuum markets. KJLC services these markets from several sales offices and four warehouse locations across The United States, Canada, England, and Hungary and with a network of agents in other countries. The company's extensive product line is used in all aspects of attaining and measuring rough, high and ultra-high vacuum conditions.

Symyx develops and applies high-speed combinatorial technologies to the discovery of materials for life science, chemical and electronics applications. Symyx provides research services to its partners through its Industry Collaborations business, seeks to license discovered materials through its Proprietary Materials programs, offers access to select instruments and software through its Discovery Tools(R) business, and licenses certain of its patented apparatus and research methodologies through its Intellectual Property Licensing business. Approximately 25 leading life science, chemical and electronic companies are among Symyx' increasing base of worldwide partners, customers, and licensees. Symyx currently has over 60 issued patents and more than 375 patent applications pending worldwide. Information about Symyx, including reports and other information filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, is available on the worldwide web at <http://www.symyx.com> or by phoning 408/773-4095. "Symyx", the logo, "Discovery Tools," "Library Studio," "Impressionist," "Epoch," "Renaissance," and "PolyView" are registered trademarks and

servicemarks of Symyx Technologies, Inc.

Certain statements in this press release are forward-looking and involve risks and uncertainties. These may be identified by the use of forward-looking words or phrases such as "believe", "expect", "intend", "anticipate", "should", "planned", "forecast", "estimated", and "potential", among others. These forward-looking statements are based on Symyx Technologies' current expectations. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for such forward-looking statements. In order to comply with the terms of the safe harbor, Symyx Technologies notes that a variety of factors could cause actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development, and results of Symyx Technologies businesses include but are not limited to (1) market acceptance of Symyx' products and services; (2) uncertainties relating to the pace, quality or number of discoveries of new materials; (3) the dependence on collaborators to successfully commercialize products; (4) uncertainties of patent protection and litigation; (5) future growth strategy; (6) general economic conditions in the United States and in major European and Asian markets; (7) exposure to risks associated with export sales and operations; (8) natural disasters, power failures and other disasters; (9) and other factors that might be described from time to time in Symyx Technologies' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Form 10-K annual report for fiscal year 2001 and Form 10-Q quarterly reports for the first two quarters of fiscal 2002.

CONTACT: Symyx Technologies, Inc. Jason
Brickley, 408/773-4095 (Manager, Investor &
Public Relations) jbrickley@symyx.com or Kurt J.
Lesker Company Duane Bingaman, 412/233-4200
(VP Sales and Marketing) duaneb@lesker.com

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